

States Senators, and that one million dollars worth of bonds were distributed among the members of the House. The writer of the letter is one J. A. George, a contractor. He offers to produce all the evidence necessary to sustain the charges. No action was taken, as no one knew whether the fellow was responsible or not. It looks as if he was anxious for a little cheap notoriety, and took this method to obtain it. There may be a shadow of truth in the charges, but the chances stand nine out of ten against him. Investigations of the character called for by the writer of this letter, have proved quite expensive, and no good has resulted therefrom. They give special committees a nice job for several months, and that is about all there is to it.

The re-union of the survivors of the late war of the rebellion, which will take place in June, will be one of the most important military gatherings seen in the west since the days of the war. It will take place in Milwaukee, beginning on the 8th of June and will hold for three days. The contractors have agreed to furnish 100,000 loaves of bread; 20,000 rolls; 20,000 cakes of corn bread; 2,000 bushels of beans; 72,000 pounds of corned beef; 100 hams; 600 heads of cattle; 5,000 bushels of potatoes; 20,000 gallons of coffee; 25,000 pies; 20,000 dozen of eggs; besides many other articles that cannot be mentioned in detail. Governor Smith has secured 1,000 hospital tents, in which the soldiers will sleep during the re-union. There will not be anything left undone to make the re-union a success. It will be a season of great festivities, and will be attended by General Grant, General Sherman, General Phil Sheridan, and other military men of world-wide fame.

Miss Francis E. Willard, formerly of this city, is among the distinguished persons who are attending the General Conference at Cincinnati. She is known as one of the most accomplished female orators in this country, and in scholarship she has hardly a superior. On Monday a resolution was offered in the Conference reciting the evils of intemperance, and closed with an invitation to Miss Willard to address the Conference on the subject for ten minutes. A ten-minute speech from Miss Willard on any subject is a rare treat, but to name this young lady from among the scores of eminent doctors of divinity, and well-known pulpit orators, seemed to some a step too far, and an attempt was made to extend the invitation to others, but there was no disposition to hear anybody else, and after much feeling had been aroused and some wrangling gone through with, an adjournment was reached, and the original resolution was lost. Wherever Miss Willard goes there is a strong desire to hear her, and the Quadrant Conference would have heard a splendid bit of oratory had she been permitted to take the floor.

There are no further developments in the Whittaker case. The proceedings are near to a close, and the result of last Saturday's work will probably do much to influence the court in deciding against the cadet. The opinion of the experts that the note of warning was in the handwriting of Whittaker, must not be taken as conclusive evidence. There is a strong probability that the note was a forgery, and that the whole scheme was simply a conspiracy to ruin the friendless cadet. The extreme haste with which General Schofield and all hands at West Point adopted to make the country believe that Whittaker committed the outrage upon himself, shows that there is a desire by the officers and cadets at West Point to take the opinions of the experts as final and conclusive. But there is another side to the case which is worthy of some consideration. Whittaker's manly bearing throughout the severe investigation, and especially his coolness, and straightforward replies on Saturday, under a painful and lingering cross-examination, are some very strong points in his favor. These will have weight with an unprejudiced public, and it will not rush to the conclusion that he is guilty. Whatever may be the result of the investigation some important facts have been revealed. It has been discovered that there has been a conspiracy at West Point to defeat the public wish, that this conspiracy sought to make the attendance of colored cadets almost impossible, "by absolutely cutting him off from all recognition as completely as if he were not a human being at all, but merely a stick or a stone."

There are now seventeen hundred bills before Congress, and yet an adjournment is talked of on the 31st. With but few exceptions it would be a good thing if the seventeen hundred bills were wiped out of existence.

Miss Mary Anderson, who is now considered the hope of the American stage, gave 238 performances during her dramatic season, which began on the 8th of last September. The total receipts during that time were \$24,619, and her profits amount to \$75,000. For eight months' work this income is pretty good. It shows that the public will rush to hear Mary Anderson.

Mr. Tilden is not altogether unconcerned about the Republican National Convention. The nomination of Washburne will blast the Sage's hope of again being elected to the Presidency. He knows this, and the old man has a glimmer of hope that the Convention will make a blunder. But in this he will be disappointed.

The Inter Ocean, which is as "badly off" on the Presidential question as it was when it was seduced by the Greenbackers two years ago, makes an easy job of it in figuring out General Grant's nomination on the first ballot. Without the 42 votes from Illinois, it gives him 346 votes in the Convention. To do this, it gives him the 70 from New York and 58 from Pennsylvania, neither of which he will get solidly, as the vote has been broken in both States. It also gives him three from Wisconsin, which is another mistake the Inter Ocean makes. That paper will find its political judgment much below par when the National Convention meets and does its work.

The Springfield Convention will take place to-morrow, and the result will be looked for with unusual interest. It is possible that the friends of General Grant will have a majority in the Convention, but it is doubtful if the unit rule will be enforced. But should the 42 votes of Illinois be given to General Grant, he will then lack 86 of a nomination. What will be done at Springfield to-morrow, what will be of deep concern to the Republican party of Illinois. If Logan, Surges, Tullish and others propose to ballize or bolt as they did in the Cook County Convention, there will be a lively time at Springfield and the result will be anything but advantageous to the Republicans. It is hoped that the Convention will be governed by a spirit of harmony and by principles of common sense and justice.

A sensation was created in Washington on Monday afternoon by a letter being read before the House Committee on the Pacific railway company, charging that \$90,000 in money, and \$100,000 worth of land-grant bonds, were paid to United

discussion, so much of bitter attack and angry recrimination would ensue, that the great ex-President would never accept a nomination attended by such surroundings. His grand self-poise and self-respect have always borne him goodly company, and will be with him to the end.

Who will then be the nominee? We ask calmly but earnestly, will it be James G. Blaine? If the party can not win with General Grant, there are Republicans of prominent standing, of cool judgment, and of keen political perception, who believe the party can not win with Blaine. There are objections to him on the ground that he has directed his campaign in person, and is directly responsible for much of the violent temper we find in the party to-day. It can be said with truth, and we make the statement with deep regret, that he and his Washington Club have directed, pointed, and energized, the bitter attacks on General Grant, and fanned to flaming fury the heated discussions, and discussions relative to Grant's candidacy. No Republican candidate for the Presidency has ever before resorted to such tactics to defeat an opponent. To come out with the truth, and to be sincere and honest, it must be said that that course is ward politics and not statesmanship. It is low cunning and not honorable battle; and we are free to say that the Convention should place upon it the seal of its own disapproval.

The National Republican Convention will show its wisdom, will harmonize and solidify the party, and cause the nation to rejoice with an exceeding great joy, by the nomination of Elihu B. Washburne.

## RETURNS ALL IN.

Speculations Relating to the Republican Convention in Illinois.

The Friends of the Different Candidates Stand Firm.

The Bolt of the Cook County Grant Men is Generally Condemned.

While the Presence of General Logan in Springfield is not Relished,

Especially by the Opponents of the Silent Man of Galena.

Washburne Still Holds Out for General Grant.

The President's Views on the Counting of the Electoral Vote.

Serious Charges Concerning the Texas Pacific Railroad Charter.

Potter Palmer Sues the Chicago Tribune for Libel.

Laying His Damages at Twenty-five Thousand Dollars.

Other Interesting State and Miscellaneous News Items.

## THE OUTCOME.

Much Uncertainty Regarding the Result in Illinois.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., May 17.—Speculations in regard to the outcome of the Convention must be as yet of little value. It is only possible to assert positively that the candidates are trembling in their boots and the delegates all at sea. Much is heard about harmony, compromise, and the good of the party. A strong undercurrent of feeling is setting in against General Logan. Many Grant men resent his presence here at this time as an affront to themselves. They say that the party never had a boss before, and does not need one now. The Grant delegates from Central Illinois take special pains to have it known that they do not train with Logan, and will not respond to the cracking of his whip under any circumstances. The Washburne delegates from Clark County, as time a body of men as ever were seen in any Convention, are very staunch in standing by Cook County. They will go with the Farwell Hall delegates anywhere. They say they cannot be reproached with bolting, since the Granties in Cook County have set the example. Some of the Grant delegates openly condemn the Cook County bolt. Kaykendall, of Johnson county, said to-day he never was a bolter himself, and he didn't think his friends at home approved of bolting. There is no weakening anywhere along the anti-Grant line. The only question is whether it would be advisable to set up a separate Convention, and the common opinion is in favor of such a course. E. B. Warner, of Whitesides, doubts whether the delegates from this county would go into a separate Convention.

A Washburne caucus was held to-night, and the tone of the speeches was very firm. Every man present was prepared to fight it out to the bitter end. The St. Clair fellows made rousing speeches, showing clear grit and remarkable oratorical powers. They will be able champions of the Cook County cause on the floor of the Convention. A Committee of arrangement, composed of three delegates from Cook and two from St. Clair, was appointed to take charge of the Washburne interests until the full delegation from Cook arrives.

A compromise much talked of, and the one most favored by some leading Grant men, is this: The admission of two-thirds of the Farwell Hall delegation, and one-third of the Palmer House delegation, with the understanding that the Ohio resolution, instructing the delegates at large and requesting the district delegates to vote for the choice of the Convention, shall be adopted.

## THE ELECTORAL VOTE.

The President's View on the Counting of the Electoral Vote.

WASHINGTON, May 17.—The Star this afternoon has a statement to the effect that it has the highest authority for saying that, if Congress adjourn without passing the bill providing for counting the electoral vote, the President will call that body together again immediately in extra session. To-night your correspondent asked the President if it was true. He replied that it was the first he had ever heard of it. So far from being true, he had never even thought of such a thing. "I would be glad," he said, "if Congress would enact a law providing for the counting of the electoral vote, and put the matter in such shape that it could not hereafter give rise to dispute, but I had never thought of calling Congress together for that special purpose. We have, in fact, got along a hundred years as the law is," said the President, "but it would be much safer, and relieve the country of a good deal of anxiety, if Congress would enact some law like the Edmunds bill, for instance."

The President intimated that even if Congress should adjourn now without providing further for the counting of the vote they should even do so when they came together again in December, but he would be glad to see them do it at once, although the thought of calling them together in extra session for that purpose had not entered his head.

## SERIOUS CHARGES.

Charges of Crookedness Against the Texas Pacific Railroad Charter.

WASHINGTON, May 17.—Mr. McLane, Chairman of the House Committee on Pacific Railroads, received to-day a letter from a person by the name of Gregory, alleging that corruption and bribery had been employed to a large extent to secure the passage of the original bill granting a charter to the Texas Pacific Railroad. The letter, after being read by Mr. McLane, was again sealed up, and will not be opened until it is laid before the committee. The charges contained are of a general nature entirely, and there is no mention of individuals or of amounts. The writer is said to be employed in the Census Bureau, and he was in the employ of the Huntington lobby, if he is not now. His letter is considered as indicating a desire on his part to be summoned before the committee. It is understood that much importance is attached to his statements, although, so far as that his concerned, it has never been doubted here that some of the ways by which the Texas Pacific charter were obtained were decidedly crooked.

## RETURNS ALL IN.

All Parties Claim a Majority of Delegates.

CHICAGO, May 17.—Returns from all counties in the state are now in. Three came in to-night. Calhoun with four votes did not instruct, so far as our information goes. The other two gave Grant two votes, Blaine three and Washburne three. The Blaine Bureau to-night claim last on account of this unexpected result to-day they will have a clear majority of anti-Grant delegates in the State convention, leaving Cook county out of the question. On the other hand, the Grant people claim to have a majority of 149 in the convention and a majority even if the Cook county regular delegation is admitted intact. The fact is that neither side can be sure of a majority, and neither can state which way the cat will jump until the pulse of the unfractured and uncertain delegates is felt, and that is not likely to be until the convention actually meets and a test vote is had.

## PALMER VS. TRIBUNE.

CHICAGO, May 17.—Potter Palmer, yesterday brought an action on the case for libel against the Tribune Company, claiming \$25,000 damages. The declaration first alludes in crude terms to the fact of the Republican primary election held on May 9th, inst., in the First Ward, for the election of delegates to the Cook County Convention of the Republican party, and that only legal voters were entitled to vote thereat. It then charges that the defendant, maliciously intending to injure the plaintiff, and to bring him into public scandal and disgrace, on May 16th inst., published the following libelous matter in the Tribune:

"A prominent citizen and an equally prominent Democrat, Mr. Potter Palmer, connected with the family of the ex-President by marriage, offered to vote, and insisted violently upon voting the entire force of hotel servants in his employ in the First ward, notwithstanding the notorious and admitted fact that many of them were non-residents." The meaning, of course, of the allusion to the non-residents was that they were not entitled to vote. Before this libelous publication Mr. Palmer was considered a person of good name and credit, and well thought of by his neighbors. Now, however, since the publication from the Tribune he claims that he has greatly lost caste, and is so disgraced as to be shunned and avoided by various persons to the extent of \$25,000.

## HE IS FOR GRANT.

GALENA, Ill., May 17.—The following telegram from the Hon. E. B. Washburne was received in this city this afternoon:

PORTLAND, Me., 17, 1880.  
Too unwell to attend to anything, but anxious to let all my friends my earnest hope that they will support General Grant.

## THE WHITTAKER CASE.

WEST POINT, N. Y., May 14.—The Whittaker case was resumed to-day, and the testimony of the commander of the post, two detectives, and several other witnesses was heard, but nothing of special importance was elicited.

## STRAWBERRIES.

CLINTON, Ill. May 17.—O W Strong, proprietor of the City Bakery, and his two children, Pearl and Harry, were poisoned

by eating strawberries yesterday, and are now lying in a precarious condition from the effects of the same. Medical aid was summoned, it is thought, in time to save their lives. It is not known how the berries came to be mixed up with the poison. Considerable excitement was caused over the matter.

## THE METHODISTS.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, May 17.—The most exciting feature of the conference to-day was a debate upon a proposition to hear Miss Francis Willard, of the Women's Temperance Association, for a space of 10 minutes. The conference spent two hours in discussion of the question. It was a queer operation. Dr. Hatfield, Miss Willard's old pastor, spoke against the proposition to hear her. The debate was very spirited. The ground taken by Mr. Hatfield and others was that the conference was a body for business deliberation, and could not open its doors to speakers upon topics foreign to the matter in hand. The debate began at 10:30 and ran until 12:30, when a vote to hear Miss Willard was carried by a small majority. It was then discovered that the hall must be vacated in fifteen minutes, and motion made to adjourn immediately, was carried. So the two hours was spent, the speaker admitted, but no speech heard at last. The colored people are still demanding a bishop but the committee appointed a few days since to find an appropriate person of color for this honor, are still at sea.

## SUICIDE AT LA CROSSE.

LA CROSSE, May 17.—Mrs. Nutting, widow of Abe Nutting, aged 79 years, residing on her farm, about eleven miles from this city, and quite wealthy, was found in a barn on her premises this morning with her throat cut, she having committed suicide. The cause is supposed to have been the recent death of a favorite son.

## Five Lives for One.

From the New York Herald, May 14.  
Never before in the United States has a single murder been avenged so terribly by the law as that of Joseph Ribber, who was drowned eighteen months ago by some one who wanted to realize the value of his life insurance policies. Six months ago two of the alleged conspirators were hanged, and yesterday three others suffered the same penalty. For five lives to be sacrificed for one seems terrible, yet the crime of the murderers was so shocking and malicious that the court could not possibly fix a lighter sentence upon any of the perpetrators. Murder for money is the basest form of the greatest crime recognized by law, and when the offense is the result of long premeditation and plotting, its wickedness increases. The execution of the Pennsylvanians will serve as a powerful warning to would-be villains of a similar stamp; but their crime also should serve a purpose, by cautioning every one against offering a premium in murder, which many a man does when he assigns interests in life insurance or anything else that may be turned into money as soon as he dies.

## Snow a Hundred Feet Deep.

Virginia (Nev.) Enterprise.  
A gentleman recently arrived from California, where he has been looking about among the mining towns, speaks of several places where the snow now lies to a depth of over 100 feet. These places are generally at the heads of large canons. At the head of Fall Creek, Nevada county, pines and firs over 100 feet deep in height are so buried in snow that only a few feet of their tops are to be seen. Where a dark forest lies in summer there is now only to be seen a white expanse of snow, with here and there what appear to be clumps of bushes, but which are really the tops of the smallest pines.

AN ORDINANCE, entitled An Ordinance to amend an ordinance amending Section two (2) of an ordinance of the City of Janesville, passed May 27th, 1879, entitled an ordinance for licensing and regulating the vending and dealing in spirituous, vinous and fermented liquors. Passed April 26th, A. D. 1880.

Section 1. Section one (1) of an ordinance of the City of Janesville, passed July 24th, 1878, entitled "An ordinance amending Section two (2) of an ordinance of the City of Janesville, passed May 27th, 1879, entitled an ordinance for licensing and regulating the vending and dealing in spirituous, vinous and fermented liquors," (is hereby amended) by striking out the words "hereby amended" in last line of said section one (1) and inserting in lieu thereof the words "and" and "hereby amended" in the fifth (5th) line of said section one (1).

Section 2. Section one (1) of an ordinance of the City of Janesville, passed July 24th, 1878, entitled "An ordinance amending Section two (2) of an ordinance of the City of Janesville, passed May 27th, 1879, entitled an ordinance for licensing and regulating the vending and dealing in spirituous, vinous and fermented liquors," (is hereby amended) by striking out the words "hereby amended" in last line of said section one (1) and inserting in lieu thereof the words "and" and "hereby amended" in the fifth (5th) line of said section one (1).

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Section 9. Section one (1) of an ordinance of the City of Janesville, passed July 24th, 1878, entitled "An ordinance amending Section two (2) of an ordinance of the City of Janesville, passed May 27th, 1879, entitled an ordinance for licensing and regulating the vending and dealing in spirituous, vinous and fermented liquors," (is hereby amended) by striking out the words "hereby amended" in last line of said section one (1) and inserting in lieu thereof the words "and" and "hereby amended" in the fifth (5th) line of said section one (1).

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## ADVERTISEMENTS.

ADVERTISEMENTS IN THIS COLUMN are inserted at the rate of 5 cents per line. No advertisement less than 25 cents. Four lines one week 25 cents.

## NEW BLANKS.

AFFIDAVIT FOR ORDER OF PUBLICATION OF SUMMONS AND ORDER FOR PUBLICATION OF SUMMONS IN CIRCUIT COURT. This blank has been carefully prepared by Judge Conger, and for sale at Gazette Office.

## FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—A SET OF COUNTER SCALES as good as new. Price Ten Dollars. Call on GAZETTE PRINTING CO.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

## Wanted

General House-Work!

Apply at the Gazette Counting Room, my8d4

## Please Read This!

## INSURANCE

## Real Estate Head-Quarters.

ESTABLISHED IN 1858.

Represent sound old companies only. Risks written at best rates and losses promptly adjusted and paid. Houses and Lots for sale. Farming Lands in the city for sale. Good bargains. Houses and Lots for rent, and Money to loan on good real estate security at low rates of interest.

## DIMOCK & HAYNER

AGENTS. SMITH & JACKMAN'S BLOCK, JANESVILLE, WISCONSIN.

Is It a Puzzle to Know Where to Get the Best and Nicest Fitting Shoes?

## NO PUZZLE AT ALL!

A	Rich	ard	son
and	Bro	keep	the
best	and	finest	stock
in	the	city	and
they	sell	them	cheap
as	they	want	to sell
off	all	their	stock
they	move	into	their
new	store.	You	will
find	them	at	pres
on	the	corner	east
of	the	First	Na
tional	Bank.		sept1d4

## PERUSE THE FOLLOWING

List of New Goods

Just received at

## WHELOCK'S

CROCKERY & HOUSE FURNISHING GOODS STORE, and the Excellent Class of Goods kept, and for Bottom Prices call at the Store.

## Jewett's Refrigerators!

Filters, Sweet's Baby Carriages, Hayland's Chins, Madock's & Boot's Crockery, Thick and Thin.

## ROGER'S SILVER WARE

New Art Ware in Majolica, Kioto, Coplinds, Minton, Wedgwoods.

## NEW NOVELTIES,

In Crystal Glass and Milk White Glass with colored decorations.

## Flower Pots!

HANGING BASKETS, GARDEN VASES,

Carpet Sweepers, &c. Some 5 and 10 cent Novelties such as

## Magic Photographs!

Hemming Birds, Tom Tit Wagon, &c.

## A. GOODRICH.

## NOVELTIES

FOR THE

## SPRING TRADE!

We have this day added to stock the following new goods. They have all been sampled and found choice goods: Boneless English Herrings, French Peas, French Mushrooms, Huckins' Soups, Mock Turtle, Ox Tail, Mullagatawney, Juliene & Beef, CURRIED OYSTERS, Bunker Hill Sweet Pickles, MARYLAND HARD Crabs, Russian Caviar, East India Chutney, German Fruits in Glass, Sardines in Tomato Sauce, Sardines in Salade Dressing, Sardines Boneless, East Indian Manioc, CRANBERRY SAUCE, very choice, PEA MEAL, BEAN MEAL, for Soups, "Dumbar's" Preserved Figs and Oranges, Dry Canton Ginger, New England CHAMPAGNE CIDER, Natural Selzer Water, Imported, PISTOLES, a French fruit, better than Prunells for sauce, also a very choice lot of new French Prunes. We have also received another large invoice of the Cincinnati Hams and Bacon, Pearce's Sodas, Coffees and Teas, and other goods in anticipation of "Booming" Spring Trade.

49 West Milwaukee St.

J. A. DENNISTON.

## HEADQUARTERS!

FOR

## MALLORY'S

BALTIMORE

## OYSTERS!

—AT—

Wholesale and Retail

PARTIES FURNISHED REASONABLE.

ALL KINDS OF

LampS, Burners

AND

CHIMNEYS!

Good Quality and Cheap.

Dealer in Fruits, Groceries, &c.

JOHN DAVIES,

25 West Milwaukee Street.

## NEW GOODS

A FRESH STOCK!

—OF—

## GROCERIES!

Just Received at No. 93 West

Milwaukee street.



TUESDAY, MAY 15, 1890.

## Chicago, Milwaukee &amp; St. Paul Rail Way.

Trains at Janesville Station.	
From Monroe	5:36 a. m.
From Prairie du Chien	1:55 p. m.
From Chicago, Milwaukee and East	4:40 p. m.
From Chicago, Milwaukee and East	6:30 p. m.
DEPARTS.	
For Chicago, Milwaukee and East	5:36 a. m.
For Chicago, Milwaukee and East	1:55 p. m.
For Madison, Prairie du Chien, St. Paul, 4:40 p. m.	
For Monroe	6:30 p. m.
A. V. H. CARPENTER, Gen'l Pass. Agt.	

Chicago & Northwestern R. R.	
Trains at Janesville Station.	
Going North	Depart.
Day Express	1:30 p. m.
Food & La. passenger	5:40 p. m.
Going South	Arrive
Day Express	2:30 p. m.
Food & La. passenger	5:35 a. m.
M. HUGHETT, Gen'l Sup't.	
W. H. STENNETT, General Passenger Agent.	

## WESTERN UNION RAILROAD.

Trains at Janesville Station.	
Day Express	10:53 a. m.
Night Express	10:11 p. m.
Accommodation	3:30 p. m.
East Bound.	
Day Express	3:10 p. m.
Night Express	3:33 a. m.
Accommodation	10:53 a. m.
D. A. OLIN, Gen'l Sup't.	

## Post-Office—Summer Time Table.

Mails arrive at the Janesville Post Office as follows:	
Chicago and Way	1:30 p. m.
Madison and Milwaukee	2:40 a. m.
Chicago Through, Night via Milton and Janesville	2:40 a. m.
Chicago Through, Night via Milton and Janesville	2:40 a. m.
Chicago Through, Night via Milton and Janesville	2:40 a. m.
Chicago Through, Night via Milton and Janesville	2:40 a. m.
Chicago Through, Night via Milton and Janesville	2:40 a. m.
Chicago Through, Night via Milton and Janesville	2:40 a. m.
Chicago Through, Night via Milton and Janesville	2:40 a. m.
Chicago Through, Night via Milton and Janesville	2:40 a. m.

## Mails close at the Janesville Post Office as follows:

Madison and Milwaukee	5 p. m.
Chicago Through, Night via Milton and Janesville	5 p. m.
Chicago Through, Night via Milton and Janesville	5 p. m.
Chicago Through, Night via Milton and Janesville	5 p. m.
Chicago Through, Night via Milton and Janesville	5 p. m.
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## THE SHOOTING OF LINCOLN.

## The Plot to Turn Off the Gas After Booth Fired—Unpublished Incidents.

New York Herald.

A man, whose name demands a place in the history of the rebellion, arrived from San Francisco a few days ago. His name is William Withers, Jr. He is a musician by profession, and has just finished an engagement as leader of the orchestra at the California Theater. It is a fact familiar to many of the friends of the theater, that the orchestra of the California Theater, on the night of the assassination, April 14, 1865, and prevented a frightful panic, although he was at the time unconscious of the important service he had rendered the audience. The story of Mr. Withers' experience of that night and the part he took in the proceedings has never been fully told. The Cabinet had held a meeting that day, and at the close of the session, which had been remarkably harmonious, the President invited any member of Cabinet who felt so inclined to accompany him to the theatre in honor of the anniversary of the previous twenty-four hours; but it seems that none accepted the invitation. The President, Mrs. Lincoln, their son, a pupil of Mr. Withers; Major H. R. Rathbone, Senator Harris and daughter, Miss Harris, made up the party. They occupied an upper box. When the orchestra heard that the President was in the theatre, one of the musicians, an Italian named Talavullo, suggested to Mr. Withers that the orchestra flag, which was the property of the Italian, be used to decorate the front of the box, and it was accordingly raised. Mr. H. P. Phillips also composed a song for the occasion, and handed it to Mr. Withers to set music to it. Mr. Withers composed a martial air, rehearsed the music with Miss Laura Keane, the leading lady, the understanding being that the song was to be sung at the end of the second act by Miss Keane, the company.

## JOINING IN THE CHORUS.

Mr. Withers had understood that this song should be sung at the close of the second act, but when the curtain was rung he saw that the programme had been changed without consulting him. His story of what followed is this: As soon as the play had proceeded he went upon the stage, and, not seeing the stage manager, went to the prompter's desk at the wing, where Mr. J. B. Wright, the prompter, was on duty. The "governor" or stage manager was in close proximity to Mr. Wright's desk. The cover of this governor was open, and Edward Spangler, assistant stage carpenter, and one of the conspirators, was standing beside it. Mr. Withers said: "Spangler, step away a moment, I want to speak to Mr. Wright." Spangler did not move. An angry frown overspread his face, and Mr. Withers peremptorily ordered him to go to his position as scene shifter. He started away, muttering something, which Mr. Withers did not hear, and to which he paid no attention at the time. He inquired of Mr. Wright why the song had not been sung, and Mr. Wright said that the programme had been changed so as to have the piece brought in at the close of the performance. "Go into the orchestra just before the finish," said Mr. Wright, "and get your instruments in tune, and we will make the effect worth while." Mr. Withers said the effect would be lost by this proceeding, and, turning down the cover of the "governor," he partly sat down upon it, and suggested that the audience at the finish would begin to move and spoil the piece, meaning to get the matter by telling Mr. Wright that he produced all the song must be sung during the play. Just then the whistle blew for change of scene, and Spangler had to attend to the shifting. Mr. Withers then started down past wings to a stairway leading under the stage. Just as he was in the act of stepping down the first stair, he heard a pistol shot. Surprised at the report, knowing

## stopped and looked toward the proscenium.

## AN ENCOUNTER WITH DEATH.

At that instant Booth dashed into the passageway with a dagger in his hand. Withers was standing directly in the line with the stage door or private entrance. His first thought was that Booth was looking for the man who had fired the shot; but the next instant the madman was upon him, thrusting at him with the dagger. The point of the weapon cut two holes in the coat worn by the musician, on the back of the neck and the other on the right shoulder, going through all the clothing and through the skin. In the struggle Mr. Withers was knocked down and badly bruised, and Booth escaped through the private door. Before Mr. Withers could get upon his feet, Harry Haddock, the actor, came rushing through the passageway after Booth, and fell over the prostrate form of Mr. Withers. It was then for the first time that the musician learned what had happened. He still has the coat he wore on that memorable occasion. It is an evening dress coat of blue-black broadcloth. He exhibited it to the reporter, put it on and described how Booth attacked him, and the exact position he was in when the thrusts were made. The only words uttered by Booth were: "Get out of my way! get out of my way, or I'll kill you!"

## THE LARGEST TREE IN THE WORLD.

## The Wonders of the Forests in California—Remarkable Size of the Trees.

In Nelson's Scientific and Technical Reader there is an account, abridged from Hutchins' "Scenes and Wonders of California," of a grove of trees. This grove is situated on the watershed between the San Antonio branch of the Calaveras river and the north fork of the Stanislaus river, in latitude 35 deg. and longitude 120 deg. 10 min. west, at an elevation of 4,370 above the sea level, and at a distance of 87 miles from Sacramento City, and 57 from Stockton. From specimens of the wood, cones, and foliage Prof. Lindley, England, considered it as forming a new genus and named it "Wellingtonia gigantea," but Mr. Lobb, who had spent several years in California, and devoted himself to the study of the forest, decided it to belong to the "Sequoia" family, and referred it to the old genus "Sequoia sempervirens," and by Americans "Washingtonia gigantea." Within an area of fifty acres, there are 102 large trees, twenty of which exceed 25 feet in diameter, and consequently over 75 feet in circumference. The "Father of the Forest," as the largest of the group is called, is a giant tree, standing in the grove, its trunk buried in the soil; it measures at the root 110 feet in circumference, its trunk to the first branch, and from the trees which were broken by its fall is estimated to have been 435 feet in length; 300 feet from the roots it is 15 feet in diameter, but owing to its being hollow, and some years since with pump augers and then wedged down; the stump which stands five feet out of the soil, is sound to the core, and has been used as a ball room. This tree was 96 feet in circumference at the ground, and 302 feet high. The "Mother of the Forest" was stripped of its bark in 1854, for exhibiting in the New England States, and now measures without the bark, eighty-four feet in circumference, seventy feet up it is thirty-nine and a half feet (also without the bark); its height is 321 feet. The "Hercules" is ninety-five feet in circumference, and 320 feet high. The "Power of the Cabin," broken off 150 feet from the ground, measures thirty-nine feet in diameter, but owing to its being hollow, and its surface uneven, its average is not quite equal to that. Fourteen other trees average 241 feet high, and seventy-eight and a half feet in circumference. It is estimated, from the number of concentric layers of wood in these trees, each layer of which is supposed to be the growth of a single year, that their age is almost 3,000 years, considerably younger than the one on exhibition. This grove also described in an amusing manner by T. W. Lincoln, M. A. F. R. G. S., in his "Over the Sea and Far Away," 1815. From his account the tree occupies a belt 300 feet long and 700 feet wide, which contains from 50 to 100 sequoias of large size, the highest is 325 feet, and the diameter of one, (which I think must be the "Big Tree") is 27 feet. At six feet from the ground, he says, the survey party counted the rings of this tree, and found the number to be 1,355, this tree, he thinks, is one of the finest in the grove.

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separately without material injury to the  
 ties in interest.—Dated April 12th, 1880.  
 J. J. COMSTOCK,  
 Sheriff of Rock County, Wisconsin.  
 SSODAY & CARPENTER, Plaintiffs Attor-  
 nys, P. O. Address, Janesville, Rock County,  
 Wis. april24qew1w



